

Obituary
July 31, 2013

Shirley May Helmer, 77

Shirley May Helmer, 77, Gilbert, Ariz. and formerly of Andover, SD, died Wednesday, July 10, 2013, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Shirley Affield spent her youth in Minnesota, where she met future husband, Norman Helmer. Her funeral was Saturday, Aug. 3, 2013 at Christ's Greenfield Church, Gilbert, Ariz. Inurnment will be 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 31 in Andover Cemetery, Andover, SD, with lunch following at Zion Lutheran Church parish hall, Andover.



She attended Christ's Greenfield Lutheran Church for many years, where she was involved with the vacation Bible school and the church's preschool where she was known affectionately as Grandma Shirley. She loved traveling, reading, sewing and quilting.

Shirley was preceded in death by her loving husband of 52 years, Norman Helmer in 2008; her parents, Walter and Irene Affield; one sister, Geraldine; and two brothers, Martin and William Affield.

She is survived by four sons, Mark Helmer, Mesa, Ariz.; Jon Helmer, Andover; Brian Helmer, and Craig Helmer, Minneapolis, Minn. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Shirley's name to the Christ's Greenfield Church Preschool Program, 425 N. Greenfield Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234.